

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

Attachment  
USIB/IRAC-D-22.1/17

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for your most encouraging letter of March 22, 1974, and its reinforcement of your earlier directives that I assume leadership of the Intelligence Community. Since taking the oath in your presence last September 4th to fulfill these duties, I am pleased to report a general spirit of cooperation and collaboration among the different elements of the Intelligence Community. The committee structures established in your November 5, 1971, directive (National Security Council Intelligence Committee, Intelligence Resources Advisory Committee, and the reconstituted United States Intelligence Board) have been useful vehicles for the determination of substantive and resource questions affecting the Intelligence Community.

During Fiscal Year 1974 we have been implementing the Objectives approved in your letter of September 25, 1973. I hope the annual report on these Objectives, to be filed after the end of the fiscal year, will be satisfying to you. A number of steps have been taken which in my view improve the responsiveness of the Intelligence Community to your needs, those of the National Security Council, and those of the Congress. There have also been a number of specific steps taken of an organizational and procedural character which I believe have focused the Intelligence Community on higher priority needs and increased the effectiveness of our collection and analytical operations.

A fundamental element of my attempt to respond to your long-term goals of November 5, 1971, has been the effort to establish

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substantive intelligence needs as the driving force for the Intelligence Community. Organization, evaluation and resource allocation should seek the satisfaction of such intelligence requirements. I am pleased to report a general acceptance of a new venture in this area, the identification of Key Intelligence Questions for Fiscal Year 1974, which your September 25th letter encouraged me to produce. This guidance for what the Intelligence Community should cover will be used as the base point for the evaluation of our effectiveness at the end of the fiscal year. We are still working out the details to implement this process fully, but I intend to ensure that the substantive intelligence needs of our customers dominate discussions and decisions about the Intelligence Community.

Carrying on the process described above, and still responsive to your November 5, 1971, long-term goals, I submit herewith for your approval the Objectives of the Intelligence Community for Fiscal Year 1975. The first group of these I have termed "Substantive Objectives," describing the output I believe you would expect of the Intelligence Community during Fiscal Year 1975. These Substantive Objectives would be used as the base for the development of more detailed Key Intelligence Questions which I would issue to the Intelligence Community with the approval of the National Security Council Intelligence Committee. A second set is named "Resource Management Objectives," dealing with the interaction of the members of the Intelligence Community and the allocation of resources to and among them. These would be further articulated into sub-Objectives which I would issue to the Intelligence Community, after consultation with the Office of Management and Budget, and reflect in my December submission to you of recommendations for the national foreign intelligence program, including tactical intelligence. Milestones have been established for the measurement and evaluation of progress toward satisfaction of these two sets of Objectives, and they will become the basis for my annual report to you of how effectively the Intelligence Community performs during Fiscal Year 1975.

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I would welcome your approval, modification or discussion in the National Security Council Intelligence Committee of these recommended Objectives for 1975.

Respectfully and sincerely,

W. E. Colby

Enclosure

Objectives for FY 1975

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